

CLAYTONIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SPRING 1996

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Bob Clearwater

It was at the Narrows Inn, Friday, October 19, 1990 that I joined the Society. Since then I have enjoyed every Spring and Fall meeting and the outstanding field trips provided. New horizons of educational interests and simple wholesome pleasures have been my rewards by being an active member. Plus valued friendships have developed during these intervening years.

Personal gratitude goes out to the nominating committee and Carl Slaughter who asked me to be vice-president in 1993. Now serving the membership as President, I will do my utmost to serve all of you well.

I suggest expanding the purpose of our Society through closer association and interaction with the Natural History Dept. of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and the Arkansas Nature Conservancy. Since both organizations are committed to the same general purposes that are basic to our Society, we can all benefit through an exchange of data and supply of information regarding the Native flora in Arkansas. Also keeping in touch with the wildlife biologists and botanists of the three U.S. Forest Services can be very fruitful in benefits serving our mutual purposes.

I feel duty bound to make efforts to extend the concepts upon which our Society was founded: "To promote the preservation, conservation and ... the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitats." Please join with the officers of the ANPS in realizing the purposes we all proclaim worthy of Our society. After all, we all share the thrills of seeing the woodland spring flowers, the summer prairie flowers and the fall roadside and field flowers. Remember: what is this life if, full of care, you do not stop and stare... at wildflowers. ✱

Spring Meeting

May 10-11-12

Arkansas 4-H Center - Ferndale

Hosts: Carl and Mary Ann Hunter

Directions: Take Ferndale Road off of Highway 10 west of Little Rock, follow road to 4-H Center; or take Congo Road exit off of I-30 at Benton, Go north to the old Congo Store, turn right and proceed to the 4-H center.

Schedule:

Friday, May 10

4:00 - 6:30 Registration

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Program: Charles Stone, State Geology Commission, speaking on the geology of the Ouachita Mountain area followed by a slide presentation of the flora of the Ouachita Mountains. Announcement of field trips.

Saturday, May 11

Breakfast

8:30 Field trips

12:00 Lunch

1:30 Afternoon field trips.

I. To the wildflower area at the Wildwood Center for the Performing Arts.

II. Along the east side of the stream leading from the 4-H Center. This trip will be a **Heritage Week** event co-sponsored by the Arkansas Natural Heritage commission and the ANPS and led by Bill Shepherd.

Note: All trips will feature fairly easy trail walks...

6:30 Dinner

7:30 Business meeting followed by a show & tell program. Dr. Dale Thomas has said that this is the favorite program at the wildflower Pilgrimage in Gatlinburg, Tennessee each year. So bring a few

interesting slides to share and we will enjoy seeing them. If you have books, arts or crafts, plants, or seeds to show, sell or trade, we will have a place to display them.

Sunday, May 12

Breakfast

8:30 Field trip to Crystal Springs to see Ouachita mountain roadside and mountain stream flora.

Accommodations

Rooms at the 4-H Center have 1 double bed and two single beds.

1 person = \$34

2 persons = \$40

3 persons = \$46

4 persons = \$48

You need to make your own reservations by calling (501) 821-4444 or writing to the

4-H Center

#1 4-H Way.


Little Rock, AR 72211

Meals at the Center

Breakfast \$4.00

Lunch \$6.00

Dinner \$8.25 up

 **Note -- You must make meal reservations to eat at the Center. Please send in the form from page 9 so that it reaches Catherine by May 7th.**

Spring Field Trips

April 27, Warren Prairie

Leader: Eric Sundell

Phone 367-2652

Meet at 10:00 in parking area next to the Natural Heritage Commission sign.

Directions: From Warren take State 4 east to State 8 turn south to sign. From Monticello take State 4 west to State 8 turn south to sign.

May 8, Mt. Magazine

Leader: Carl Slaughter

Phone: 727-5700

Meet at 10:00 at the junction of state 309 and the road to Mt. Magazine Recreation area. Hope to see the Showy Orchis, maybe the states largest population of that orchid

May 18, Terre Noire Natural Area (Black Land Prairie)

This is also a Heritage week event.

Leader: Dan Marsh

Phone: 246-9422

Meet at 10:00 at the E.C. Thompson Store in the parking area.

Directions: Take Interstate 30 to exit 73 near Arkadelphia. Go on State 8 west to the store which is near the intersection. Dan also has another site to visit which is a saline black land area.

May 25, Baker's Prairie

Leader: Burnetta Hinterthuer

Phone: 741-7342

Meet at 10:00 in the parking lot north of the Harrison High School. This is a joint field trip with the Nature Conservancy and the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission.

Concerning Field Trips.

The Executive Board encourages the addition of more regional field trips. Some members can't travel long distances and would like to have more trips in their area of the state. If you would like to lead a field trip and have it published in the *Claytonia* please call or write the editor Ron Doran. We also request that you keep records of the plants you see on your field trips and the numbers attending for inclusion in the next *Claytonia*.

For goodness sake! Burnetta

Hinterthuer and the Ozark Region group have already formed the first ANPS local chapter. Wonderful. I know you will be blessed! Hopefully we will be able to form other chapters in 1996. Greg Roberson and I will be working with the Coastal Plains and the Ouachita Mt. regions. We will mail out letters of inquiry to see who is interested in forming these chapters. Please return the enclosed cards..... John Pelton.

ANOTHER SPRING FIELD TRIP OF INTEREST

May 17 and 18 Friday and Saturday

The management and personnel of the Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge invites birdwatchers and wildflower enthusiasts to come to Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge in south Arkansas to see red-cockaded woodpeckers and other spring birds and the flush of flowering wildflowers and fruiting mayhaw trees.

The Saturday field trip is a repeat of the Friday Trip, making it possible for people who cannot come one day to participate in the other day. Red-cockaded woodpeckers are a sure thing as adults will still be feeding young in the nest holes. People are expected to bring their own lunch and drinks. There are no restroom facilities or picnicking areas in the refuge. Those coming from the east can meet at the refuge headquarters west of Crossett on U.S. 82; those coming from the west can meet at King's Inn Best Western Motel in El Dorado on U.S. 167. The Crossett group will leave headquarters at 9 a.m.; those leaving the King's Inn will leave at 8 a.m., then both groups will meet at the junction of Shallow Lake Road with U.S. 82 and continue until 3 p.m. when those needing to return home can begin their return journey. Lodgings are available in both Crossett and El Dorado. For more information contact Ruth McDonald at the Felsenthal National Wildlife Refuge, P.O. Box 1157, Crossett, Arkansas 71635 or call during business hours 1-501-364-3168, or you may contact Carl R. Amason, P.O. Box 164, Calion, Arkansas 71724 or call 1-501-748-2362 and the best time to reach him by telephone is to call after the sun goes down.

FALL FIELD TRIP REPORTS

September 30, 1995 Harold Alexander, Wildlife Refuge

Ten members and guests gathered at the Rock Creek site on a superb fall morning to hike the edges of the creek taking in the sunlight radiance of gloss white petals of the grass-of-parnassus. In addition to Parnassia grandifolia, another creek edge plant, Ridell's goldenrods were occasionally found. Solidago ridellii is considered to be 'rare' in Arkansas. Farther upstream we did locate a few unusually tall, up to 4 feet, plants. A lady from the Jonesboro area was present as she has an ongoing research project concerned with the ridell's goldenrod. Dr. Board found a 'surprise' plant, the aquatic pennywort; Hydrocotyle americana. It was in an isolated eddy of very shallow calm water and intertwined with other small water plants. Later, in another area east of Rock Creek, the tiny gentian, Bartonia; Bartonia virginica, or B. paniculata, was discovered in a bog area. This was reported to J. Logan without a voucher specimen. -- B. Clearwater for Dr. Veryl Board

October 7, 1995 Baker Prairie

Twelve members and guests enjoyed a few hours on the most beautiful prairie in Arkansas. New members, Ralph Lindgren, from Joplin, MO, and Burnetta Hinterthuer joined some regulars like Ed Hall, Carl and Jannene Slaughter and Jean Crone to walk the prairie, a mosaic of composite colors. Two species of compositae were found that did not appear on the Arkansas Natural Heritage's list, so they were reported but no voucher specimens offered. We all noted the great benefits of our Maintenance donation to help defray the cost of a prescribed burn. For the Downey Gentians, Gentiana puberulenta (page 64, Mr. Hunter's book, 4th edition) was very plentiful as compared to other past years. Many outstanding bunches were seen each with up to eighteen bluish-purple flowers. -- Bob Clearwater

November 11, 1995 Carl Amason's, Near Calion

The previous Friday night was stormy and the winds blew and people who had planned to come from Little Rock and Hot Springs areas stayed home. Later I heard that wind damages were coming from east Texas to central Arkansas. But Saturday morning arrived on the old Armistice Day with a cessation of stormy weather and the day turned out to be a nice one for the field trip. But it was the first day of the modern gun deer season and it is considered to be unsafe in south Arkansas woods with so many deer hunters anxious to kill a deer. The past seasons had been so dry that there were not many wild native plants there at a good stage for seeing. The field trip was limited to the premises where some supplementary waterings had kept some plants alive even through they were still under stress.

Arrivals came and the happy effects of kindred souls were much in evidence all the day. Near the gathering point of the hike about the place was a hybrid pine, Pinus x pondereggeri, the hybrid of Pinus taeda x Pinus palustris, which is fairly uncommon. The tree was purchased maybe forty or fifty years ago as a longleaf pine (P. palustris) at a nursery in Louisiana but it has matured into a handsome tree with the stature of the loblolly (P. taeda) but the long needles of the longleaf (P. palustris). The size of the cones are intermediate between the species and as far as I can determine, they have all been sterile. Shortly afterwards, two open, almost shadeless longleaf pines (P. palustris) were pointed out but there were none of the large cones for which the species is noted. Close by was a nice example of an eastern white pine (P. strobus) and its bundles of fine needles were examined. Also of great interest was an evergreen Japanese oak (Quercus acuta) which is difficult to realize is an oak when only American trees are known, and two more native North American pines, Virginia pine (P. virginiana) and the Florida sand pine (P. clausa), and the last specimen is in poor shape. Both species have two needles in a bundle.

Next was a poor berried Ilex longipedes, the long stalked holly. Due to hot dry weather and poor pollination only a few berries were on the tree. Some botanists classify it as Ilex decidua var. longipedes but the male Ilex decidua do not or have not furnished pollen to make enough berries to make a show. Only a few flowers were blooming in this area but the few sasanguas that were blooming added beauty and interest to the group. In this general area were some Ilex latifolia trees and some of their hybrids. These were of special interest to Mike Carter and Mike Wallis, both from Pulaski County who came together and operate jointly a nursery in the Little Rock area. Ilex latifolia has a big heavy evergreen leaf with somewhat spiny serrations on its edges. The species comes from the Orient.

Down under a slope were some of the native witch hazels-Hamamelis virginiana; some were in full flower but most have unopened buds-a promise of things to come. The flowers are well masked by the light but bright yellow fall coloring of the leaves. Perhaps this is the reason why this shrub to small tree is not seen as often or as appreciated as it should be. In a clump of small trees, some individual trees are in bloom from October to the middle of January.

There is a small wet weather pool nearby but it was dry, but in the lowest and dampest area was a mass of bright green foliage or seedlings of Micranthemum umbrosum, mudflower, discovered in Union County, Arkansas about 1940, probably by Dr. Dwight Moore. The plant prospers especially about edges of beaver ponds. Actually it is a pretty winter species but the flowers are very tiny, almost microscopic in size. Much to everyone's surprise, there were a few but not really magnificent specimens of Spiranthes odorata, or most books list it as Spiranthes cernua var.

odorata, in full bloom. These were one of the few wildflower subjects for Ed Hall to photograph on this field trip. There had been some frosts in the previous week which had ruined many wildflowers.

Then it was time for lunch which was another happy time. Two new members to the Arkansas Native Plant Society were enrolled from the group: Raymond Higgins of El Dorado and Ralph Lindgren of Joplin, Missouri. Raymond is a retired lawyer but he took a course in botany under Dr. Dwight Moore at the University of Arkansas. It was Ralph's first time to participate in any field trip of the ANPS and he is a member of several plant societies in the central United States - Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma among them. Thera Lou Adams produced her delicious pastry rolls which were quickly demolished by the hungry field trippers. Also among the people eating and sharing their lunches were Jeanette Crawford of McNeil, near Magnolia, Winnie Dawson of Malvern, Arkansas and Canada and Francio Smith of Malvern, all of whom have become regular wildflower field trippers.

Then after lunch, we strolled over the southern part of the place with its plantings and I was anxious to show Barbara and Claude O'Qwynn of Hot Springs some small local trees which I have decided to be Chalk Maples - Acer leucoderma, some of the scattered maples across the south that are usually listed as small southern trees of the sugar maple complex, Acer saccharum, which includes the forms known as chalk maple and Florida sugar maple. I am confused about their differences. George and Lillie Sinclair with their daughter Mary Wilson always have a lot of enthusiasm and they were delighted with the lingering fruits of a Japanese persimmon tree. This small fruiting tree is especially lovely in fall foliage and fruit color.

The group began to disperse and go on their return trip back home as the late days of autumn are so short and darkness comes so suddenly. So the day ended with happy experiences in learning and lasting actions of fellowship which makes for fond memories of a happy day well spent.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES -- Gail Carlson, Secretary

President Robertson opened the general business meeting on Sept. 23, 1995 at 7:35 p.m., Econo Lodge, Hot Springs, AR.

President Robertson dispensed with reading of the spring minutes as it's in the Fall Claytonia. Carl Amason made a motion to accept the minutes, James Lynn seconded.

Sue Clark explained the treasurer's report, noting correction under Certificate of Deposit; it should read 5.5% and not 5.05%. She indicated \$928.00 was made on Friday nights auction and 79 members registered.

There are two openings on the Executive Board, one for Vice President and one for Historian. The nominees are Don Crank for Vice President and Martha Wyre for Historian. Carl Amason made motion to accept the two nominees and Louise Dunn, seconded. Motion carried.

Don Crank thanked everyone who went on the field trips and mentioned there will be a Sunday field trip. John Pelton, leader of the Sunday field trip explained the area and route and to meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Econo Lodge conference room.

President Robertson indicated there has been good response to the T-shirts designed by Ted Barnes. He showed us a T-shirt with a collar and a khaki button down shirt which would be available for next year. Cost was not available at this time.

President Robertson explained the approval of a finance committee by the Executive Board; and he had appointed Sue Clark, Bob Clearwater and John Pelton to the finance committee with John Pelton serving as Chairman.

President Robertson reported that the Executive Board approved a donation of \$1,500 to the Nature Conservancy for the designated maintenance

of Baker Prairie, in Boone Country, AR. Prescribed burning of the prairie to take place every 3 years.

John Pelton was then given an opportunity to explain the Life Membership and General Membership dues revision as determined by the committee of John Pelton, Carl Hunter and Dr. Carl Slaughter. It was suggested that persons 65 yrs. and over would pay \$150.00 and persons under 65 yrs. would pay \$500.00. The membership fund would then be put into a general fund. John also briefly explained the \$3,000 Certificate of Deposit. Thera Lou Adams indicated she was already a life member and would she have to pay more. Bruce Ewing asked if the by-laws would have to be changed. Another question about Life Membership asked: is there a minimum number of years required for Life Membership? No comment was made. John Pelton indicated that Life Membership funds could be used for other purposes. Don Crank stated we need more time and information of the dues revision. A motion to table the revision of dues was made by Don Crank and Thera Lou Adams seconded. President Robertson asked for a raise of hands to table the motion until our Spring General Meeting and at that time further information will be given. Voting was 30 to 5 to table until the spring meeting.

Greg Robertson then turned the program over to our new President Bob Clearwater, who introduced his spouse, Gail Carlson, who is our ANPS secretary.

President Clearwater then declared the general meeting was adjourned in order to present the evening's program. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. -- Respectfully submitted, Gail Carlson, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT -- as of February 10, 1996

Operating Account

Balance		\$4072.59	9-23-95
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Deposits:

Registration,		
Fall meeting	160.00	
Membership	1725.00	
T-Shirt sales	538.00	
Interest	<u>34.59</u>	
	\$2457.59	

Expenses:

Postage-(reminder cards)	48.40
Post office box rental-1996	58.00
Fall meeting refreshments	32.57
Fall <i>Claytonia</i> expense	<u>303.40</u>
	\$ 442.37

TOTAL OPERATING FUND	\$6087.31	2-10-96
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Dwight Moore

Balance	\$2263.52	9-23-95
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Deposits:

Membership	\$ 150.00
Interest	<u>25.28</u>
	\$ 175.28

TOTAL	\$2438.80	2-10-96
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Delzee Demaree

Balance	\$3960.10	9-23-95
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Deposits:

Membership	\$835.00
Interest	<u>44.70</u>
	\$879.70

TOTAL	\$4839.80	2-10-96
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Aileen McWilliam

Balance	\$6520.87	9-23-95
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Deposits:		
Auction	\$836.00	
Interest	<u>76.82</u>	
	\$912.82	
TOTAL		\$7433.69
Certificate of Deposit		\$2974.76 9-23-95
		\$3050.08 12-27-95
APR 5.00% - matures 6-27-96		
TOTAL AMOUNT: ANPS		\$20,013.24

A POEM WRITTEN AS A TRIBUTE BY A SON TO HIS FATHER

At the 1995 spring meeting in Mena, Shirley Brotherton had a copy of a poem written by A.J. Higginbottom of Murfreesboro written as a birthday present for his father, Albert Higginbottom, of Kirby. To know Albert is a real privilege as he is very knowledgeable about the Kirby area, its mountains and streams with its trees and wildflowers. Albert is not well and in the past year has not been able to come to the Arkansas Native Plant Society's meetings or its field trips. Here is the poem written by a son for his father's birthday.

FOR ALBERT

Dutchman's Breeches, Queen Anne's Lace
 Lady Slippers, too
 The wood is clothed spectacular.
 A treat for me and you.

Dragonhead, Elephant Foot,
 Animal parts prevail,
 Adder's mouth and Turtlehead,
 There's even Lizard's tail.

Star of Bethlehem, Passionflower,
 The Bible gives a good deal.
 Jacob's Ladder, Adam-and-Eve
 For authority there's Solomon's seal.

Fleabane and Cowbane,
 Poisons, fly and crow,
 Nature made some noxious stuff
 They work as far as I know.

It is Orchis or is it Iris?
 I cannot always tell.
 Sometimes I cannot call their name
 But I like them just the same.

Leguminosae and Verbascum,
 The ancient woods are true
 But another important thing to learn
 Is to enjoy them like I do.

A.J. Higginbottom

A REPORT ON TWO SPECIES OF MAGNOLIAS IN ARKANSAS

Among the many species of woody plants in Arkansas, the state is fortunate to have a fairly moderate climate that permits many interesting

and outstanding native flowering trees, and outstanding among them are the Magnolias. Over most of the state, the name magnolia conjures up a large stately evergreen tree that has large leathery green leaves and large white or creamy white fragrant flowers. To people in the south, that is THE Magnolia. But there are many other species and cultivars in the genus, and only one or two of the world's temperate magnolias are evergreen; most of them are deciduous and they are not impostors! Some magnolias are tropical, unsuited for growing in Arkansas, and hereby is a comparison of two of the four wild species and one widely cultivated evergreen species, the later almost comes to the state as a native.

In the southern piney woods, counties of the Western Gulf Plains Magnolia virginiana var. australis is locally abundant about springs and spring branches where the soil moisture is constant but never in the flood plains of the longer creeks and river. This magnolia grows to be saw-log size trees; that is, 18 to 24 inches in diameter to 75 or 80 feet tall. They are easy to grow from seeds and the seedling will transplant quiet readily but plants more than two feet tall will give problems in successful transplanting. The roots are light colored, the young bark or small trees and smaller limbs and twigs are greenish but the bark of the trees is smooth and light in color. All parts - roots, twigs, freshly cut wood, flowers, and leaves have a pungent odor of magnolia. The wood is light in color and in weight. The leaves are long and narrow and is always silvery on the underside. The blooms are creamy white, usually with nine tepals (sepals and petals alike) in whorls of threes and about 1 1/2 inches long, making the open flowers about three inches wide. The flowers last about two days, maybe three, turning a light brown before falling, leaving the immature seed container as a light green erect knob that develops into a seed pod that splits open in late summer, revealing a bright red covered seed which is relished by squirrels and some birds. The seeds are black when the oily red seed covering is removed. Magnolia virginiana var. virginiana of the Atlantic coastal plains are large shrubs to small trees. The eastern coastal form is the one that is found in commerce. The fragrance of the flowers have been described as "Magnolia-like with a mixture of lemon oil". One fault of the South Arkansas form is difficulty of establishing, especially away from soil that is not moist. The Arkansas range is almost confined to the Western Gulf Coast, but not in the Delta Region. As one approaches the Ouachita Mountains, the sweet bay (another common name as the leaves have been used in cooking as a substitute for the bay leaves) becomes quite rare and in the uplands is replaced by the Umbrella Magnolia Magnolia tripetala. The scientific name, like some others, is a misnomer as it contains more than three petals to the flowers. The umbrella magnolia has large leaves, up to 24" long, tapered on the petiole end and rounded on the opposite end, leaves are in false whorls, hence the common name, and they are medium green above and pale green beneath. The tree is fully deciduous, where the sweet bay tree is almost fully evergreen. The umbrella magnolia is a small tree, up to 8 maybe 10 inches at the base of the trunk, which is usually twisted or curved and is found about moist stream and permanent streams of water and in the larger mountain streams, they are exposed to short periods of flooding, but flooding in those places are usually measured by the hour, not days like the flood plains of the larger rivers. The flowers occur

after the leaves are developed and are somewhat concealed by the leaves. Flowers are small, upright, with spaced tepals in a circular pattern, maybe 3 or slightly more inches in length, and are a light tannish yellow, or off white and the real shock to people who think magnolia blossoms have a pleasing fragrance, these magnolia stink! The smell is somewhat like a stink-horn mushroom. But the bad odor does not detract from the beauty of the tree with or without blooms. The umbrella magnolia can be confused with the big-leafed magnolia, Magnolia macrophylla, another small native deciduous magnolia which grows in a more upland drier site, has much larger leaves with eared lobes on the petiole end of the leaves and has much large almost pure white fragrant flowers, often with purple markings on the inside of the flowers. Big-leaved magnolias are rare in Arkansas, maybe extinct in its native range of Crowley's Ridge of eastern part of the state. Umbrella magnolias are locally common in some of the coves and stream valleys of the Ozarks and Ouachita mountains. There is an occurrence of umbrella magnolia on the Coastal Plains, south of Camden in Ouachita County.

These small deciduous magnolias are unique and striking in appearances and are a wonderful addition to large estates and small city gardens but they tend to prosper best in shady sites.

A LITTLE KNOWN PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

At the Fall 1986 annual meeting, the ANPS approved the distribution of publications known as the "Arkansas Native Plant Society Occasional Papers". The intent was to make available at cost various works which supplement the Atlas and Annotated List of the Arkansas Flora written by Dr. Ed Smith of the U of A, Fayetteville. The Atlas and four supplements essentially were out-of-print. By providing a mechanism to make available these old works and encouraging the preparation of new works, the ANPS has taken a significant role in facilitating efforts to improve our knowledge about the Arkansas flora. Requests for copies and new listings should be addressed to :

Dr. Don Culwell (E-mail donc@ccl.uca.edu)
Department of Biology
University of Central Arkansas
Conway, AR 72035-0001

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

First, I want to thank all of you who have sent in articles and information for the *Claytonia*. especially to Carl Amason who I can always count on. It makes my job a lot easier when there is something to edit -- keep them coming! I don't promise your information will get in the next issue but maybe in the following issue. There have been several people who have expressed an interest in making the *Claytonia* at least a quarterly. If you would like to see it more frequently it would help to have 6 or so regular contributors. With the chapters forming perhaps we could have reports of their activities included. Maybe one of their officers could be selected as a reporter for the *Claytonia*.

FOR SPRING MEETING MEAL RESERVATIONS PLEASE CHECK MEALS DESIRED
DETACH THIS COUPON AND MAIL BY MAY 4 TO:

		May 10,	May 11,	May 12
Catherine Hepinstall	Breakfast \$4		_____	_____
7219 Richwood Road	Lunch \$6		_____	
Little Rock, AR 72207	Dinner \$8.25+	_____	_____	
Phone: 666-1036				

Signature _____

Have you looked at the number in the upper right corner of your address label?

- If the number is 96 or LF, there is no problem.
- If your number is 95 - your dues are due! If dues are not paid before the next issue of *Claytonia* comes out, your name will likely be purged from the mailing list. You can pay at the next meeting or send your dues (\$10 Regular, \$15 Supporting, \$25 Contributing, or \$100 Life) to:

Arkansas Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 250250
Little Rock, AR 72225

Remember, your membership helps keep Arkansas the "Natural State."

- If you have had a change of name, address or telephone number since your dues, please send the change to:
Eric Sundell, Membership Chairman, ANPS
114 Briarcliff
Monticello, AR 71655
- Only articles for the *Claytonia* should be sent to:

Ron Doran, Editor *Claytonia*, ANPS
Box 846, Harding University
Searcy, AR 72149-0001

Ron Doran, Editor *Claytonia*, ANPS
Box 846, Harding University
Searcy, AR 72149-0001



CULWELL, Dr. Donald E. 96
3 Magnolia Drive
Conway, AR 72032

CLAYTONIA

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY Fall 1996

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Bob Clearwater 

Serving the Society membership for 1996 has been a 'mixed bag.' To have only two Executive Board Meetings, usually in the Jan.-Feb. and July-Aug. time frame and a brief meeting during each general meeting doesn't afford the time for your Board to make much progress. It may be difficult to find a willing member to serve as President for two years, as the treasurer and secretary do, but I feel there is a valid need for our Presidents to serve two years.

Some thoughts to pass on for active support of the members:

1) The Society needs more volunteers to do field trips. If interested contact the President-elect.

2) Why does our Native Plant Society exist? Do we simply maintain a status quo: or, do we make changes for the betterment by giving some new directions for the Society to progress?

3) Do we speak up for the ANPS in our locale? We have some members who are able and willing to do slide shows of Arkansas wildflowers. And they will travel reasonable distances.

4) Are we really living up to the purposes we proclaim to be our mission?

5) Do we have an active ongoing mission of rescuing "sensitive native plants" when we know ahead of time that their habitat home is to be bulldozed?

I have been asking myself these questions for some time, and many more I might add.

There are some new plans and ideas for programs, speakers, and work shops being advanced for consideration and implementation.

You may hear more at the Fall Meeting.

We have a Society of nearly 400 members with the potential to be more actively pursuing its purposes: the preservation, conservation and public education of the native flora in the "Natural State."

Almost 150 years ago, on April 10, 1853, when wildflowers were graciously more abundant everywhere, Henry David Thoreau wrote in his Journal, "When a farmer cleans out his ditches, I mourn the loss of many a flower which he calls a weed."



Fall Meeting

September 27-29

All Saints Episcopal Church (Friday)

Holiday Inn (Saturday)

Russellville

Host: Gary Tucker

Directions: From downtown Russellville take Main Street (Highway 64) west to Phoenix street. Turn left on Phoenix and go south five blocks to All Saints Episcopal Church at 501 South Phoenix. The Friday evening meeting will be in the fellowship hall located behind the church. The Holiday Inn is located at I-40 and Highway 7 North.

Schedule:

Friday, September 27

4:00 - 6:00 Registration , Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall.

Dinner on your own - see following list.
7:00 Announcement of field trips and other weekend activities followed by the annual auction and program.

Saturday September 28

Breakfast

8:30 Morning field trips, meet at Tucker Coliseum.

1:30 Afternoon field trips, meet at Tucker Coliseum.

6:30 Dinner - On your own.

7:30 Business meeting followed by a program - at the Holiday Inn.

Sunday, September 29

Breakfast

8:30 Trip to Mary Ann King's Pine Ridge Gardens, near London, AR.

Accommodations

Make reservations as soon as possible at one of the following motels to ensure having a room.

Best Western Inn, 967-1000, or toll free reservations at 1-800-528-1234.

Budget Inn, 968-4400.

Holiday Inn, 968-4300.

(The above three are on Highway 7 N just south of I-40 at Exit 81.)

Comfort Inn 967-7500. Just south of I-40 at Exit 84.

Restaurants

[These are just a few of the many choices.]

Highway 7 N:

Cagle's Mill at the Holiday Inn

New China - buffet lunch and dinner.

Whataburger - lunch and dinner.

Highway 64 East:

La Huerta (Mexican food); lunch and dinner.

Old South - breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Ryan's - Lunch and dinner.

Other locations:

Madame Wu's (Chinese); lunch and dinner.

Highway 7 South

Shoney's, Breakfast, lunch and dinner.

2320 N Arkansas - near Holiday Inn.

Stoby's Depot and Dining Car

405 West D

Thai Cuisine (Thai food) Lunch and dinner.

113 East D

Romedi's on the River - Diner only with Italian and Southern menus; private club with \$5 membership card required of one member in dinner party.

115 South Front, Dardanelle

Some Comments on ANPS Auctions by Carl Amason
--

The Arkansas Native Plant Society was formally organized at a meeting in Mena in the Fall of 1980. *[Editor's note: An organizational meeting was held in Heber Springs earlier in the Spring which I'll always remember. Our first society field trip was to the Big Creek Natural Area. Those present at the meeting had carpooled to the site since the parking is very limited there. Robert Wright and your editor got so engrossed in examining some plants that we got separated from the rest. When we got back to the parking lot we had a big surprise - there wasn't a car there!! We had an enjoyable extended field trip walking another mile or so until we could find a farm house with a telephone.]*

There were perhaps 50 people in attendance and most of the meeting was spent hammering out the constitution and by-laws - and hammer away they did. The original annual dues were only \$5. And from the beginning plans were to stress education, preservation and conservation of the native plants of the state -- three noble endeavors that takes leadership, teaching abilities, appreciation of wildflowers, skills in handling sympathetic and unsympathetic people, and money. There are a lot of leaders, skillful people, teachers and followers among the original members. The dues were low the aims were high and such matters have given us growing pains until this day. And sometime, somehow, some place, someone came up with the idea of an auction. So the first few years members made jellies, bird houses, grew gourds, potted a few plants and packaged seeds. The auctions brought in a few hundred dollars but the scholarships and awards went sparingly, only one per year with perhaps only \$50, which inched up to \$100 to today's schedules of awardings. Meanwhile field trips were stressed as important educational, presentational and conservational features and the *CLAYTONIA* was the thread that held the society together. But money. We needed more money for awards. So the auction was held but who would be the auctioneer? Somehow this exercise in trying to make money reminds me of the story of the rats

who held a meeting and voted to bell the cat. But which rat would put the bell on the cat? I suppose that was my feeling when I offered to be the auctioneer. I had never done such a thing before in my life. I seldom go to auctions, and only when I am dragged along. Somehow the members forgave my absent-mindedness -- I forget the bids and who bided -- and the auction was considered to have been a success. In my endeavor to sell things, I encourage people to laugh with and at me -- after all I can't think of better person to laugh at as there is so much to laugh about the person! Anyway, the stakes of awards and scholarships have risen in recent years, thanks much to the auction and its fellowship.

Perhaps the greatest thing to happen to the society is Carl Hunter and his books. What a great uplift they brought. His wildflower book is now a standard college textbook in the state's educational institutions. And the *CLAYTONIA*? It is the thread that holds the society together thanks to Ron Doran.

So the auctions have been successful in promoting educational, preservational and conservational issues. And we are experiencing growing pains today.

And more about the auction. What sells at an auction? The membership of the society is favorable to any material that features plants: photographs, seeds, potted plants, walking canes, and birdhouses and bird feeders are popular items. Structures made by Bruce Ewing are unique. Jellies made by Lana Ewing, and Cat Dean are interesting as well as delicious. It is easier to sell one or few of a kind rather than a lot of the same thing. Hence when there are a dozen iris rhizomes, they are usually sold at a fair price and then many are given a chance to grow very lovely native plant. A wilted potted plant is difficult to sell and while seeds sell well in small numbers of lots, cuttings go a-begging. So come with your wares for the auction, laugh at the auctioneer, and go home happy with your purchases and experiences.



Spring 96 General Business Meeting Minutes by Gail Carlson, Secretary

Saturday May 11, 4-H Center, Ferndale

President Clearwater opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Dr. Jewel Moore brought to the meeting a display of Jennifer Switzer's research project. Also a note of thanks to the Society for the research grant provided to her by the Society. Pres. Clearwater requested that the display be passed around. He further commented that this is the first time he had seen any results of a research project by the recipient of the Society's funding and he said this is the way recipient's might show their gratitude to the society.

The president thanked Carl and MaryAnn Hunter for hosting the Spring meeting. He also thanked MaryAnn Hunter, Frances Pelton, Catherine Hepinstall, Gail Carlson and Don Crank in helping with registration and meal tickets. The president then presented Don Crank a gift from the Society for hosting the 1995 fall meeting in Hot Springs, AR.

Pres. Clearwater asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the 1995 Fall general meeting minutes as it is recorded in the *Claytonia*. A motion was made by Carl Amason to accept the minutes as recorded in the *Claytonia*. Kathleen Peek seconded. Motion carried.

The President read an excerpt from the February 1996 Executive Board Meeting concerning the increase in membership dues as follows: Regular membership \$15.00; Supporting \$20.00, Contributing \$30.00. Two new categories were added: Student membership \$10.00; and Family membership \$25.00. Carl Amason made a motion to accept the new dues. Phyllis Bartlow, seconded. Motion carried. Life membership to be discussed at a later time.

John Pelton explained briefly the reasons for the increase in membership dues and requested that the new dues be published in the *Claytonia* and in the new Directory.

The President asked the membership for recommendations for new ideas to benefit the good of the society, no response. It was suggested by the Pres. that John Pelton and Carl Hunter get together to discuss the ANPS future.

Continued next page.

Minutes continued.

John Pelton gave a brief explanation of Sunday's Field trip to Crystal Springs. He commended Carl and MaryAnn Hunter for an outstanding job in hosting our spring meeting. He presented them a gift from the Society.

John then read the list of seven students who are the recipient's of the Dwight Moore, Delzie DeMaree and Aileen McWilliams awards which totaled more than \$3500.00.

John then read his letter written to the President concerning restructure of the Memorial funds. John then made a motion asking the Society to accept his recommendations. Bill Shepherd seconded. Don Crank offered to accept John's recommendations by an amendment whereby the second paragraph would be deleted. Dr. Peck wanted to know what was the difference between "keep and delete". The chair was unable to answer his question at that time. Then the Chair explained the basic reason for putting all segregated funds in a "united" or "single fund" while continuing to honor the three memorialized persons listed in the directory. Currently, the segregated funds are in some banks' saving account probably drawing less than 2% APR. By combining the three segregated funds into a single "unity" fund, there would be enough total dollars to invest in CD's which should maximize the interest on these collective funds.

The floor asked for a vote on Don's amendment. The Chair called for a voice vote. The chair ruled that "no" was paramount. Amendment defeated. Then Steve Marak made a motion to table Mr. Pelton's motion until the Fall meeting. Kathleen Peek seconded. The Chair asked for a show of hands to table: 22 voted to table, 3 voted not to table. Chair ruled the motion tabled: and he went on to explain that the assembled members did constitute a quorum and that he would act on the affairs of the Society. After Carl Slaughter, Liz Getz and John Simpson made comments, Dr. Jewel Moore then brought up from the table John Pelton's motion. She stated that moneys in the accounts or the three memorial funds should be invested in a more profitable way.

The chair then recognized Carl Hunter who made the following motion amendment to John's motion. Mr. Hunter's amendment was to go ahead and have a single Memorial fund but retain the current Memorial awards as printed on page 34 in the 1996-97 directory. There being no further discussion the Chair called for a hand vote on Carl's amendment. The amendment carried with four votes against.

With this business completed, President Clearwater requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made, seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report July 27, 1996 by Sue Clark, Treasurer

Operating Account

Balance 4-25-96	\$6961.29
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Deposits:

Registration Spring meeting:	\$1880.00
Memberships	350.00
T-shirts	84.00
Bumper stickers	60.00
Scholarships:	
withdrawn from DeMaree	2000.00
withdrawn from McWilliami	1500.00
Carl Hunter book transfer	15.00
Interest	<u>41.36</u>
total deposits	\$5930.36

Expenses:

Spring meeting	\$1781.51
Trophy for outgoing Pres.	13.80
Printing of Directory	656.04
Scholarships	3500.00
Carl Hunter book transfer	15.00
Spring Claytonia	307.00
4-H deposit	<u>50.00</u>
total expenses	(\$6323.35)

Balance 7-26-96	\$6568.30
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CD -1st Commercial [5%]	
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Balance 7-26-96	\$3126.33
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Scholarship Funds

Dwight Moore	
Balance 4-25-96	2487.28

Deposits:

Memberships	\$20.00
Interest	14.12

Balance 7-26-96	\$2521.40
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Treasurers report continued.

Aileen McWilliam

Balance 4-25-96 \$7475.28

Deposits:

Interest \$38.37

Expenses:

3 Scholarships @ \$500.00 each
(\$1500.00)

Balance 7-26-96 \$6014.15

Delzie DeMaree

Balance 4-25-96 \$5000.49

Deposits:

Membership \$210.00

Interest 24.08

Expenses:

4 scholarships @ \$500.00 each
(\$2000.00)

Balance 7-26-96 \$3234.57

Total ANPS Funds 4-25-96 \$24889.10

Total ANPS Funds 7-26-96 \$21464.75

News and Ideas by John Pelton -President Elect

Good News! By telephone survey we have enough members committed to join the Ouachita Chapter of the ANPS to form the chapter and apply for approval by the Executive Board at the Fall meeting.

If you want to join this Chapter contact a member of the organizing committee, Dr. John Simpson, Bob Clearwater, Christine Frisbee, Paula Wallace, or John Pelton. We will ask President Clearwater to assist us at our organizational meeting to be held at Buffy's Cafeteria in Hot Springs at a later date. Our organizing committee will contact you about the time and date.

We will have two additional issues of our newsletter, the *Claytonia*, in 1997. With the Executive's boards approval, the new issues will focus primarily on field trips our members have made or will make in the future. These issues will also be an opportunity for educational and informational articles, questions to and answers from our experts.

.....We hope to have a workshop in the Fall to discuss how we can carry out our mission to educate, conserve, and preserve our

natural heritage into the future. If you have any ideas about this, please write them out and mail or hand them to any Executive Board member. A coordinator for the workshop will enlist leaders for each section and invite contributing guests.

This might be a typical idea: Let's allow elementary and high school biology teachers to join the Society dues-free for a two year trial membership. What? Apprentice members? YES! Plus we can provide them with a Carl Hunter softback, and plenty of slides to show their students. We are talking about education here!

This workshop will be for **all** members.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

An April 1996 Field Trip in the Ouachitas

by John Pelton

Imagine ten grown people dashing through the Ouachitas on a Saturday late in April looking at sites most had not seen before. A power line right-of-way looked as if it had been planted by the Mormon gardener at the Mormon Center in Salt Lake City: A mix of Fire Pink, Monarda, Phlox, Rose Verbena, Prairie Parsley and Phacelia; also just enough native grasses to enhance the setting. We went into the woods and seeps to see the Spiderwort, False Hellebore, Lady Slippers, Wood Orchids, Whorled Pogonia, and ferns. We later found Lily-leaf Twayblade there also.

We (John Simpson, Sterling Hankins, Penny Robbins, Ruth Brown, Paula Wallace, Carl and MaryAnn Hunter, George and Lily Sinclair, and John Pelton) left western Saline County and went to Burl's for lunch, then on to Montgomery County and the National Forest. There we saw Arkansas Cabbage, Spiderwort, Fire Pink, a small white violet, Birdsfoot Violets, May Apples, Phlox, etc. But the stars of this trip were the Kentucky Lady Slippers. We found one clump with three doubles (a plant with two flowers blooming). This area has an estimated three hundred plus Kentucky Lady Slipper plants.

We met Carl and Jannene Slaughter just as we were ready to leave the site -- they were on the way to Mt. Ida for a quail dinner and had stopped by to photograph the Lady Slippers.

continued next page

Prothonotary Warbler made himself audible and visible as he fluttered from bush to bush along the creek banks. In the distant Overcup Oaks, Orchard Orioles were proclaiming their territories. White-eyed Vireos were scolding and singing in the bushes nearby. We soon left for a small swag where Red-cockaded Woodpeckers had been nesting but we saw none there but did see a roving Great Crested Flycatcher with his wild calls approach a nest hole in a pine tree and when he looked inside, something startled him away. Next was a short drive to a recently burned woodland, and sure enough we saw the woodpeckers we were seeking; at times as many as five were leap-frogging up the trunk of one of the pine trees. About our feet were some Scutellaria integrifolia in full bloom. From this area we went on to the Shallow Lake boat ramp, and we walked the sand spit along the boat canal as far as we could. At the beginning there were several Crataegus opaca with bright red fruit, some on the tree and some on the ground; there were enough Mayhaws to sample the sweet-tart flavor, which makes it one of the most sought after fruit for making jelly in its natural range. They are small cherry-sized fragrant little apples with a core of five hard seeds. Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Orchard Orioles were common as well as Red-winged Blackbirds. Some Wood Ducks flew overhead with their distinctive "squell" calls. And at this time Common Egrets were flying around. In this area two blooming Asclepias perennis were found, and photographed. This Milkweed is a beautiful plant, often as a clump about a foot tall and as wide containing clusters of typical Milkweed flowers that are pinky-white. It is common in lowland areas but is one of the best of all Milkweeds to grow in the garden -- except for the Orange Butterfly Weed.

Saturday morning was a repeat of the Friday's trip but there was a different group of participants which included some of the old South Arkansas Audubon Society and more of the ANPS members. We stopped at many of the same places, enjoyed the wildflowers, which were few in most places, and many of the same birds but the Red-cockaded Woodpeckers made a spectacular show with five or perhaps six at one time on the same tree, giving their constant calls all

the while. Next we stopped at a large flowering colony of Apocynum cannabinum, the Indian Hemp or Hemp Dogbane. This was a very important source of fiber for the American Indians, hence the common name hemp pops up and the Marijuana plant, also a source of the original hemp fiber is Cannabis sativa and none other than Linnaeus gave the scientific name to our native Indian Hemp and it is apparent where he got the specific name of cannabinum. It is a vigorous stoloniferous plant which readily makes a colony of stems growing up to thirty inches tall with clusters of tiny whitish flowers among the opposite leaves which are 3 or 4 inches long with a white midrib. The stems are reddish brown and it has milky sap. The blooms produce long slender seed pods in pairs, which places the species in Apocynaceae (Dogbane family) with Amsonia, and another plant which we encountered on these field trips, Trachelospermum difforme, the Climbing Dogbane Vine, which is common in the bottomlands nearly statewide. So the Asclepidaceae (Milkweed family) is not the only family group that has a milky sap. One of the field trippers, Bob Gamble, said that even in modern times some of the farmers of Eastern Tennessee make some cordage from Indian Hemp.

We left the refuge and drove through the town of Felsenthal to a picnic area built by the Corps of Engineers in connection with Lock and Dam #6 on the Ouachita River. During the lunch hour we discussed plants and birds -- and people. Two species of birds that were seen by one or two but not the entire group were the Wild Turkey and the Mississippi Kite. Some of the members broke away after lunch but some continued to a parking area and boat ramp near the dam. Bluebirds were there and in a nearby weedy area everyone got a good look at a persistently singing male Dickcissel.

Dr. Peck's Pick of Fern Books

Growing Ferns as Garden, House and Landscape Plants.

Ferrenica, V. 1993. **Wildflowers in your garden a gardeners guide.** \$35.00 Regina Ryan Book,

Random House ISBN 0-679-41453 [Chapter 4, pp.37-42, "A Fern Garden" provides factors involved in selection and design of fern beds; pp.95 "Stalwart Ferns" provides a discussion of the hardiest ferns.]

Foster, F.G. 1976. **Ferns to know and grow**. 2nd rev. ed. Hawthorn Books. \$5.95
ISBN 0-8015-2600-0 [A must have book that discusses glasshouse, houseplant, and garden/landscape species; cultivation methods.]

Hoshizaki, B. J. 1975. **Fern growers manual**. Knoph. \$15.00 ISBN 0-394-49687-6 [A must-have book with particular reference on greenhouse ferns; now being revised by BJH and Robbin Moran, UALR]

Mickel, J.T. 1979. **The home gardener's book of ferns**. Holt. Paperback \$7.95 ISBN 0-03-45741-6 [A good and serviceable book to use as an introduction to growing ferns from spores; but quickly outgrown.]

Mickel, J.T. 1994. **Ferns for American gardens**. Macmillan. \$60.00 ISBN 0-02-584491-1 [Quite possibly the best book ever written on gardening and growing ferns; if you only have one book this is it; heavily documented with photographs of hardy ferns; discusses the cultivars and exotics that have worked well in American gardens.]

Wasowski, S. 1994. **Gardening with native plants of the south**. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas, TX. \$29.95 ISBN 0-87833-802-0 [Chapter 10, pp.118-125, "Ferns" provides a dozen hardy ferns that will establish and enhance a landscape or garden; also discusses layout, design, and selection factors.]

Help !

Do you know of other books that are helpful to those of us interested in ferns as landscape, garden, or house plants? Write them down and let me know. Let's expand this list.

- Please let me know of ferns that you have seen under cultivation in Arkansas. name (scientific or common), conditions and locations are helpful.
- Do you have or can you take photographs (slides) of fern gardening or landscaping in Arkansas.

- If you know of good gardens or scenic fern areas, let me know.

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Editor's End Notes

It has been a dry dry summer in this part of Arkansas. All the summer storms seemed to bypass Searcy. When I left the first part of August for the cool Maine woods my 18 acres of mostly woods were toast crisp -- practically all the Elms and many of the Oaks had already shed their leaves. I hadn't had to mow since sometime in June -- and I enjoy mowing. When I got back in time for our pre-semester faculty conference I still didn't have to mow.

My front field is essentially a dry glade with outcroppings of sandstone bed rock. It is always pretty in the Spring with Delphiniums and Coreopsis contrasting blue against gold. I don't usually pay much attention to that field this time of the year because it's just the bland tans and pale greens of dehydrated plants. Walking to check my mailbox at the end of our driveway my eye was caught by specks of bright pink on one of those outcroppings. Looking closely, I discovered a group of beautiful tiny flowering plants with succulent leaves that I hadn't seen in the 11 years we have lived on the property. The plant keyed out to Talinum parviflorum (Fame Flower or Rock Pink). Smith's *Keys to the Flora* says the flower only opens about 5:30 P.M.

I don't know why I haven't seen it before. Perhaps it was because the dry summer stunted the growth of some of the other plants that usually surrounded them and hid them from me. Maybe it was because I waited till after supper to check the mail instead of getting it after school at 3:15.

It just goes to show you that even an experienced plant hunter has a lot to learn about the native plants of Arkansas. Keep looking -- you never can tell when you might make a discovery!

Membership Information

Have you looked at the number in the upper right hand corner of your address label?

If the number is 96 or LF you are helping ANPS reach its goals. If your number is lower then 96 you are riding on the coattails of the rest of the members and this may be your last issue of *Claytonia*.. You can pay at the Fall Meeting or send your dues:

\$15 Regular

\$20 Supporting

\$30 Contributing

\$10 Student

\$25 Family

to: Arkansas Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 250250
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Send changes of name, address or telephone numbers to:

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ANPS OFFICERS

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President Elect.....John Pelton
Vice President.....Don Crank
SecretaryGail Carlson
Treasurer.....Sue Clark
Membership Chairman.....Eric Sundell
Historian.....Jewel Moore
Editor..... Ron Doran

This years nominating committee:

Greg Robertson, Chairman

Kathy Daniel

Vickie Robertson

Present the following nominees for the 96-97 year:

Vice President.....Joe Stuckey

Secretary.....Cathy Marak

Treasurer.....Jason Anders

The purpose of the Arkansas Native Plant Society is to promote the preservation, conservation, and study of the wild plants and vegetation of Arkansas, the education of the public to the value of the native flora and its habitat, and the publication of related information.



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